

REMARKS


In the Office Action, Claims 22-30 were allowed, which is duly noted and appreciated. Claims 1-21 have been canceled in an effort to advance the allowed claims to issuance. It should be noted that applicants reserve the right to pursue claims directed to the subject matter of Claims 1-21 in a further continuation application.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action passing the present application to issuance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any further issues to resolve, he is invited to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date:

June 10, 2004

Victoria Sellers

SIL:jeh/mk

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